

REMARKS

Claims 55, 57, 59, 69, 70, 72 and 80-121 were pending in the present application. Claims 80-83 were previously withdrawn from consideration. Claims 80-83 have been canceled herein. Claims 55, 57, 59, 69, 70, 72, 80-109 and 111 are canceled, and claims 110 and 112-121 are amended herein. Claims 110 and 112-121 are therefore now pending.

In the Office Action dated August 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 55, 69, 93, 103, 110 and 115 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A).

Claims 57, 59, 70 and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A), as applied to claims 55 and 69, respectively, above, in further view of Martin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,551,959 A) and James et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,080 A).

Claims 84-89 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A), as applied to claims 55 and 69, respectively, above, in further view of Martin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,551,959 A).

Claims 55, 69, 90, 98, 100, 108, and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Hirai et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,312,921 A).

Claims 55, 69, 91, 101, and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Adams et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,990 A) and Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,242,373 A).

Claims 55, 69, 92, 99, 102, 109, and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Adams et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,664,990 A) and Pierson (Handbook of Chemical Vapor Deposition).

Claims 55, 69, 94, 98, 104, 108, and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Julien (U.S. Patent No. 5,308,367 A) and Pierson (Handbook of Chemical Vapor Deposition).

Claims 55, 69, 95, 105 and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Yu (U.S. Patent No. 5,314,843 A) and Pierson (Handbook of Chemical Vapor Deposition).

Claims 55, 69, 96, 106, and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Kajiyama (U.S. Patent No. 4,547,998 A).

Claims 55, 69, 97, 107 and 110 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fontanella (U.S. Patent No. 3,508,890 A) in view of Martin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,085,671 A) and Pierson (Handbook of Chemical Vapor Deposition).

The Examiner objected to claims 111-121, which were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim from which these claims depend.

Applicant disagrees with the rejection of the previously pending claims over Fontanella alone, or in combination with the other cited references. However, in the interest of prosecuting certain embodiments of the invention, the present amendment, which cancels claims 55, 57, 59, 69, 70, 72, 80-109 and 111 and amends claim 110, places pending claims 110 and 109 in condition for allowance consistent with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. More specifically, the Examiner indicated that claims 110-121 would be allowable if amended to recite the limitations of the base claim. Base claim 110 has been amended to recite the limitations of claim 111 and the remaining claims have been amended to depend from claim 110. This amendment is made without prejudice to the right to file a continuation application to pursue the originally pending claims and to explain their patentability over the cited art.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.  
Favorable consideration and a timely Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



Mark W. Roberts, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 46,160  
Telephone No. (206) 903-8728

MWR:clr

Enclosures:

Postcard

Check

Fee Transmittal Sheet (+ copy)

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP  
1420 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3400  
Seattle, WA 98101-4010  
(206) 903-8800 (telephone)  
(206) 903-8820 (fax)

h:\ip\documents\clients\micron technology\400\500453.04\500453.04 080204 oa amend.doc